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ABSTRACT

This document is a progress report of the University-Urban Interface Program at the University of Pittsburgh, a program of university involvement in community activities. The introduction concerns the progress made in data collection, analysis, and presentation of results. The second section deals with the progress and outcomes of various minority and community services offered by the University; section three discusses campus development as related to the program; and the fourth section discusses the project designed to improve communications between the university and the community; the fifth section analyzes the long-range Pittsburgh goals project; and the sixth section reviews the university governance for community relations project. (HS)

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PHASE IV  
PROGRESS REPORT 1  
JULY, 1972-SEPTEMBER, 1972

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UNIVERSITY-URBAN INTERFACE PROGRAM

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UNIVERSITY-URBAN INTERFACE PROGRAM

PHASE IV

PROGRESS REPORT 1

(July, 1972 - September, 1972)

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This report covers the first quarter of Phase IV of the grant award, the last year that this award will be in effect. At this point in time, program activities are concentrated in the areas of data analysis and report writing and, accordingly, the report is oriented toward these concerns. An introductory section outlines progress so far in the final phase of the program in terms of what has been accomplished over the summer with respect to data collection, analysis, and presentation of the results. In a second part of the introduction, the approach to report writing at this time is described, and attention is also paid to the use of seminars and staff meetings to discuss problems of integrating materials, with the fifth priority, governance, as the focusing concern. In the remainder of the report each priority area is reviewed separately with respect to what has happened during the last three months, and finally, a brief summary of the current status of the overall program is given. Each priority section is prefaced by a brief descriptive abstract.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### (a) Progress in Data Collection, Analysis, and Presentation of Results:

Data Collection: In the previous progress report, it was noted that the data collection phase of the program had to be completed so that attention could be shifted to a focus on analysis and writing up of research findings. Over the summer, the research staff has managed to carry out or bring to completion most of the major data collection activities anticipated for the program. No new surveys or studies are planned, although selected interviews or other minor information-gathering efforts, such as attending meetings or conferences, are still planned as seems useful in connection with report preparation. There are still a few vital pieces of information which will be added to our files during the next month or so. For example, there are still two major reports outstanding from staff members working on two of the Outreach Projects (the Student Consultant Project and the Clarifying Environments Program) which, when received, will have to be integrated with materials already collected on these projects. Also, additional interviews are still anticipated to complete an inventory of University projects and programs connected with the interface between the University and the community, although much of this information has now been compiled. On the whole, however, as will be seen in the following sections on each priority area, the goal of completing data collection has very nearly been reached.

Data Analysis: The Computer Center at the University of Pittsburgh has been undergoing a transfer to a different type of computer. This change has led to considerable delays in the processing of data. Although

some of the smaller bodies of data collected in the research process have been tabulated and cross-tabulated by hand, the process of analysis has been slowed down under the circumstances; in the case of the alumni survey, which involves a large accumulation of data, analysis has virtually had to be suspended for several weeks. In spite of difficulties, however, results are being generated for most of the projects which have been carried out.

Presentation of Results: In the past few months relatively more time has gone into report writing, a trend which is expected to continue at an accelerated pace as the termination date of the project nears. Over the summer, several new reports have been brought out in draft form, incorporating results from data analysis which has been completed. Progress on reports is discussed in the sections following for each priority area. Members of the research staff have also had opportunities in the last few months to present papers at meetings of professional societies and, in this context, to receive feedback through discussion of some of the research efforts and problems.

(b) Report Writing, Seminars, and Staff Meetings:

Report Writing: Just as there has been a division of labor among the research staff in terms of responsibility for the several priorities of the program, so reports are being compiled largely on an individual basis. This has been a matter of continuing concern in relation to the necessity of integrating the material for a final monograph. One guideline which serves to assure some continuity among the separately prepared documents

stems from the use of an institution-building framework<sup>1</sup> in all areas of the research. Beyond using this framework which delineates certain major variables and linkages, other mechanisms are being employed to keep communication going, to emphasize common concerns, and to work toward solving problems which evolve in the report writing process.

Seminars: Professor Paul Lazarsfeld continues to meet with the research staff and, with his invaluable help, we have begun to focus at least a part of the discussion on the fifth priority of the project, University Governance for community relations. Beginning in September, we have arranged to meet with Professor Lazarsfeld every two weeks for a prolonged work session. For each of these seminars, an agenda is prepared in advance, so that the most immediate concerns in report preparation can be discussed, as well as the overall progress and direction of the final phase of the program. In the next two or three months it is planned to invite other consultants from the program's Research Advisory Council to join in the planning for the final report, using as a basis a tentative outline which has already been prepared.<sup>2</sup> The seminars, in addition to providing advice and commentary from those who have shared an interest in the program since its outset but have not been directly involved in the UUIP research, provide opportunities for feedback for internal staff as well, with respect to one another's progress and concerns. However, there are additional means by which the research staff members keep in touch and cooperate in the preparation of results.

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<sup>1</sup>For a brief discussion of this framework and its uses for the program, see: Office of the Secretary, Phase III, Progress Report 1, (Pittsburgh, Pa.: University-Urban Interface Program, October, 1971), pp. 24-25.

<sup>2</sup>Office of the Secretary, Phase III, Progress Report 3, (Pittsburgh, Pa.: University-Urban Interface Program, April, 1972), Appendix A, pp. 25-27.

Staff Meetings: Weekly staff meetings of the program research staff are now almost entirely directed toward the process of completing draft reports, critiquing drafts and making suggestions for final versions, and discussion of "audiences" for particular bodies of information. Currently, the audience deserving most special attention is perceived to be the administration of the University of Pittsburgh, most particularly those administrators directly involved in the interface between the University and the community. Although regular interviews with some of these administrators have been held since the program's inception, the interviews have been oriented toward learning about their plans, activities, and concerns, rather than toward finding out what kinds of information would be most useful to them, although in some cases it has been possible to provide some direct feedback. In the near future, it is planned to invite key administrators to join us at the research office, so that they can learn in some depth about research findings that will be available and make suggestions about what they would like to see highlighted and how the material can be best organized for their purposes.

Informally, within the research office, there are regular discussions between staff members, even while the individual report writing proceeds. As each report reaches the draft stage, it is circulated internally for commentary. As seems desirable, in addition to the weekly staff meetings, smaller group meetings are held for thorough working over of a particular draft report.

By the use of a number of formal and informal mechanisms, then, we feel that there is sufficient interaction on the program to keep us pointed toward the common goal. At the same time, some separation of activities serves to provide a certain stimulating variety in perspectives.

## 2. MINORITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Four projects which represent direct involvement of University schools, departments and individual personnel with the delivery of services to predominantly black community groups are being studied. The projects offer a wide range of activities to be observed and represent both established and entirely new efforts.

### (a) Project Right Start

Current Status of Project: All data collection has been completed for the UIIP analysis of this project.

Plans for Presentation of Results: The report has been completed and will be ready for publication before the end of the year.

### (b) Graduate School of Social Work - Neighborhood Centers Association

Current Status of Project: Over the summer, data collection was completed for this project with the addition of supplementary data from project files.

Plans for Presentation of Results: An analysis and evaluation of the project is now being drafted. A preliminary analysis (first draft) should be completed within the next week or two.

### (c) Student Consultant Project

Current Status of Project: The Student Consultant Project (SCP) continues to flourish but ongoing data collection by UIIP staff has been terminated. The director of SCP is in the process of writing a report for UIIP which will describe the development of SCP and identify those crucial factors which have determined SCP's effectiveness and continuity.

A model will also be included which can be utilized and tested by any interested organizations. This finished report is expected to be completed by November 1.

Plans for Presentation of Results: The final report to the Office of Education from UIIP will include information from the previously published monograph ("The Student Consultant Project (SCP): A Case Study of Student Involvement in Social Action," September, 1971), the report from the director of SCP mentioned above, and extensive data collected by UIIP researchers which includes interviews and observations.

(d) Clarifying Environments Program

Current Status of Project: UIIP's formal arrangement to obtain weekly reports from a Clarifying Environments Program (CEP) liason person was terminated in June. At this time, we also received a comprehensive report on CEP especially prepared for UIIP by another CEP staff member.

During the summer, the UIIP staff completed data collection needed for the final report on CEP. Two administrators and one researcher of the local Model Cities program were interviewed concerning their agency's history of relations as to monitoring, evaluating, and funding of CEP, as well as their attitudes toward the program. We interviewed two researchers at the Research Division of the Board of Education concerning their current evaluation of CEP, and the codirector of the University's Learning, Research and Development Center about CEP's particular place in this learning center in terms of theory, goals, operations and funding.

Two teachers and the principal of the school where the laboratory is operating were also interviewed as to their knowledge about and views on the program and its effectiveness.

Evaluations: Two reports will be added to our baseline data on CEP during the month of October: one on the Board of Education's testing of the children who have attended the lab sessions and another on an overall evaluation of the program done by inhouse staff for the Responsive Environments Foundation (one of the funding agencies). This report includes one interview study of paraprofessionals and one of the parents of children having attended the laboratory.<sup>3</sup>

Plans for Presentation of Results: were discussed in our last progress report. In the interim, a draft of the history of CEP has been written. The completion of our analysis and report is scheduled for the end of November.

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<sup>3</sup>Office of the Secretary, Phase III, Progress Report 4, (Pittsburgh, Pa.: University-Urban Interface Program, June, 1972).

### 3. CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

Pittsburgh's need for additional facilities to accommodate its enormous growth rate and the experience of other urban universities with physical expansion in recent years made this area a natural target for study. Under observation are the University of Pittsburgh's interactions with its neighbors in the process of planning new facilities and the internal decision-making which accompanies this process.

#### Current Status of Project:

During the last quarter, we have continued our frequent concurrent evaluation interviews with appropriate University policy makers and policy implementors. Increasingly, we have had the opportunity to informally feedback our assessment of the expansion situation. We are continuing to attend, as observers, the formative sessions of Oakland Development, Inc. (ODI). Over the summer, because of vacations, meetings were held once a month; however, they have now returned to a twice a month schedule. We also continue our occasional interviews with selective community representatives to the ODI.

In order to fill out our data base, we completed two useful projects. The first is comprised of three papers of approximately 20 pages in length in which a University representative and two community members presented their perceptions of the campus development controversy. Each of the three documents can stand alone and also will be useful in preparing interim and final reports. In the second project we completed interviews of approximately one hour in length with 17 of the approximately 21 representatives to the ODI. The interviews provided us the occasion to feed back to the respondents our analysis and evaluation of the expansion controversy by using the interview data to show possible areas of common

agreement and by suggesting also potential means for all interests to cooperate in achieving their common goals.

Plans for Presentation of Results:

A paper, prepared by a UIIP staff member and a member of the University's Office of Governmental Relations' staff, was delivered before the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for College and University Planning. The paper, entitled "Community Constraints on Academic Planning: Myths and Realities," suggests that university clashes with their local communities are generic rather than unique, and are, in large part, the result of traditional planning which does not consider changes in the political culture.

A full report based on the interviews described above will be prepared this quarter. Earlier reports prepared on campus expansion, augmented by the additional data collected over the summer, will be integrated in a final report on this priority.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

A very important area of the relationship between the University and the community in which it resides is that of information exchange. A contemporary urban university, needing public support, must be able to explain its goals and, in turn, learn what its various publics think of it and expect from it. The study of the communications process which is being pursued at Pittsburgh is mainly concentrated on the formal channels of communication, the offices from which they emanate, and an assessment of the effectiveness of the system from the point of view of receiver interest and satisfaction.

##### Current Status of Project:

During the summer, the staff members working on the Communications Project completed a survey of some publics external to the University and the survey of Alumni.

The Readership Survey: The Readership Survey focused on the effect of the news media in transmitting information and images of the University to specific categories of the general public. Several of the categories included businessmen and residents of the community bordering on the University. Other publics sampled were suburbanites, skilled laborers of ethnic background, and residents of a black community. A major criterion in choosing the representatives of these social categories was that they had no close tie with the University. Sixty interviews were conducted. The survey instrument consisted of three parts: (1) some background questions about the respondent; (2) some multiple choice and open-ended questions concerning their use of the media and their expectations of the University; and (3) a series of articles that appeared in the daily press that the respondent was asked to react to. The interviewers were also

asked to write up a report of the added comments by the respondents and to assess their general attitude about the University. Suggestions for improving the communications between the University and the community were also recorded. The data from this survey is now being analyzed and organized into reports.

The Alumni Survey: A preliminary report was presented to the Alumni Council in July. A decision was reached by that group to delay making public any of the findings until the final analysis is completed. The Alumni Council would like to make public the findings at a press conference.

Because of delay in computer analysis due to the conversion of the Pitt computer system, the final analysis of the Pitt alumni data is behind schedule. The UUIP staff has proceeded on schedule, though, to prepare the Carnegie-Mellon University alumni questionnaire for mailing, and that should be in the field by early October. No final decision has been reached on the Duquesne University questionnaire.

Plans for Presentation of Results:

With the completion of the alumni surveys, all basic data planned for the Communications Projects will be gathered and the remaining period of the project will be devoted to analysis and final reports.

## 5. THE LONG-RANGE PITTSBURGH GOALS PROJECT

This project was initiated as an attempt to identify regularly and systematically the long-range goals of the community as well as how the University could best work cooperatively with other community organizations in achieving them. Basic tools have been a survey of community influentials and four Forums on selected major urban problems in which representatives from various segments of the community and from the University participated. At one step removed, UIIP researchers, using participant observation and several unobtrusive measures, are attempting to gauge the success of this project in terms of its stated goals.

### Current Status of Project:

Over the summer the last piece of data collection for this project was completed. A questionnaire was sent to all participants in the four Forums conducted by the project investigators as a follow-up study of reactions to and possible "spin-offs" from the Forums. Thirty-seven per cent of the participants returned completed questionnaires. No new research activities will be undertaken on the Goals Project. However, when a draft report compiled from the research on the project is finished, two or three interviews are planned with the chief investigator to ensure that the information presented is as complete and accurate as possible. The chief investigator will also be asked whether he sees at this time any possibilities for a continuation of joint community-University interaction as initiated in the Forums.

### Plans for Presentation of Results:

The questionnaire data from the survey described above has been analyzed and incorporated into a draft report. Work can now go forward on the final report covering all of the research on the Goals Project.

An introductory section for this report has been completed at this time, and an analysis of the content of the Forum discussions by source and nature of ideas and attitudes expressed is ongoing. A draft of the total report is expected to be available for internal circulation and commentary during the month of November.

## 6. UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS

This priority becomes central for final analysis and reporting. Findings in all the other priorities, as well as some additional information collected on other programs in the University, will be integrated to make some assessment of the University of Pittsburgh's governance procedures particularly with respect to its external publics. An important task will be to attempt to make some recommendations, both in the local and national context, as to how these procedures could be improved or how better means could be found. Research in this priority area necessarily includes the monitoring of internal decision-making procedures. At the same time, a large body of data is being collected to assess the reactions of external publics and internal constituencies to the University's policies and activities.

### Current Status of Project:

Organizing the data from the four other priorities to approach the area of University Governance for Community Relations in a manner which makes good use of all the information at hand is a focus of considerable thought and discussion at this stage in the program. As has been noted, seminars and staff meetings are being used as settings for working out feasible modes of organization. In addition, three research members are writing brief individual papers with the goal of demonstrating how each priority area contributes to an evaluation of the University of Pittsburgh's community relations efforts and how findings can best be formulated to make a contribution to future policy making. These papers will serve as a basis for future seminar and staff meeting discussions.

Besides the information collected for other priority areas, data have been collected in connection with governance for an inventory of University projects and programs connected with the interface between the

University of Pittsburgh and the community. Investigation into internship and other "experiential learning" programs has been completed over the summer; however, additional interviews will be required to finish updating existing information on community-oriented research, service, and other activities.

Plans for Presentation of Results:

In connection with preliminary thinking about the priority of governance, a paper<sup>4</sup> was prepared for and presented at a round-table discussion at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. The paper identified some of the sources of pressure on the contemporary urban university in the United States and linked these to possible strains engendered when sources represent different or conflicting interests.

From the information collected on the experiential learning programs, a major report<sup>5</sup> has now been produced in draft and circulated for suggested revisions. Given the scope of the report, it was decided to produce a revised version which would consist of two parts. The first part will contain a fairly economical overview of the specific programs in this University by department or school and include information on program organization and requirements, numbers involved, recent innovations, perceived major problems and major contributions of programs. The second part is oriented toward putting this "case study" into a larger framework by including a historical perspective on experiential learning, as well as some analysis of current trends in this area both at the national and local level.

<sup>4</sup> Martha Baum, Multiple Pressures on University Governance, Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, August 31, 1972.

<sup>5</sup> Michael Sugg, A Descriptive Analysis of Selected Experiential Learning Programs at the University of Pittsburgh, Draft report, September, 1972.

Another area for analysis, directly related to the governance priority, is the interviews with key administrators collected during the duration of the program. An approach to this material by means of content analysis is now being worked out utilizing dimensions suggested in the institution-building framework.

The final "word" from the program concerning governance will only emerge when all the other reports have been written and integrated. At this point we anticipate that all or most of the reports from other priorities will be completed at least in preliminary form by the end of December or early in January. At that point it will become possible to shift more completely to an overall perspective on the program.

7. SUMMARY OF CURRENT STATUS OF THE UNIVERSITY-URBAN INTERFACE PROGRAM

In the first few months of the final phase of the grant award, data collection has been virtually completed. Although we remain interested and aware of things still going on "out there," systematic monitoring has been terminated. This step seemed necessary since, although any cutting point is arbitrary, remaining program efforts will have to be concentrated on analyzing the information already collected and producing reports on the results in order to fulfill the conditions of the award. Both analysis and presentation are in varying states of completion, but at this point it seems reasonable to anticipate that most of the sub-reports will be available by the end of the year or shortly thereafter, at least in a form which would permit solid planning for the final report. Some of the subreports will stand by themselves for distribution to interested groups or for journal publication. However, in their preparation, care is being taken to emphasize unifying themes which will make individual reports amenable to integration in the final monograph. We can reasonably expect that all data analysis will be completed during the second quarter of the final phase, so that the final six months will be entirely devoted to interpretation and presentation.

REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY-URBAN INTERFACE PROGRAM \*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>Proposal to Develop a Program of University-Urban Interface, Phase I</u><br>November 1969                                                                                                    | 126 pages |
| <u>Proposal for Continuation of a University-Urban Interface Program</u><br>December 1969                                                                                                       | 63 pages  |
| <u>Supplementary Information, March through September, 1970</u><br>September 1970                                                                                                               | 31 pages  |
| <u>Progress Report III, September 1, 1970 to January 1, 1971</u><br>January 1971                                                                                                                | 107 pages |
| <u>Progress Report IV, January 1, 1971 to March 31, 1971</u><br>March 1971                                                                                                                      | 35 pages  |
| <u>Proposal Addendum, Scope of Work for Phases III &amp; IV</u><br>May 1971                                                                                                                     | 27 pages  |
| * <u>The Student Consultant Project (SCP): A Case Study of Student Involvement in Social Action</u> by Michael S. Koleda, et al.<br>September 1971                                              | 62 pages  |
| * <u>Phase II Interim Report (April 1970 - June 1971)</u><br>September 1971                                                                                                                     | 152 pages |
| <u>Research Report of Communications, Phase II</u><br>June 1971                                                                                                                                 | 208 pages |
| <u>Phase III, Progress Report I (July-September 1971)</u><br>October 1971                                                                                                                       | 29 pages  |
| * <u>The Pittsburgh Goals Study - A Summary</u> , by Jiri Nehnevajsa and Alan Coleman<br>October 1971                                                                                           | 15 pages  |
| * <u>University Forum Background Paper, Is Conflict Utilization Underestimated?</u><br>by M. Coleman, J. V. Cunningham, Marvin Feit, N. Johnson, P. Carter and Joseph Colangelo<br>October 1971 | 32 pages  |
| * <u>Pittsburgh Goals: Some Issues</u> by Jiri Nehnevajsa<br>October 1971                                                                                                                       | 10 pages  |
| * <u>University Forum Background Paper, Law &amp; Order in the Metropolitan Area: Issues and Options</u> by Matthew Holden, Jr.<br>November 1971                                                | 56 pages  |
| * <u>Pittsburgh Goals: Notes on the Criminal Justice System</u> by Jiri Nehnevajsa<br>November 1971                                                                                             | 9 pages   |

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- \* University Forum Background Paper, The University and the Community in the Domain of Health by W. L. Treuting, W. T. Hall, M. L. Baizerman  
December 1971  
48 pages
- \* Pittsburgh Goals: Some Thoughts on Health Issues by Jiri Nehnevajsa and Robert C. Britson  
December 1971  
10 pages
- \* Phase III, Progress Report 2 (October - December 1971)  
January 1972  
31 pages
- \* University Forum Background Paper, Goals and Government of the Metropolis by J. Steele Gow  
February 1972  
28 pages
- \* Pittsburgh Goals: Notes on Metropolitanism by Jiri Nehnevajsa  
February 1972  
9 pages
- \* Phase III, Progress Report 3 (January - March, 1972)  
April 1972  
31 pages
- \* The Impact of the University of Pittsburgh on the Local Economy by Educational Systems Research Group  
April 1972  
103 pages
- \* Methodological Appendix - The Impact of the University of Pittsburgh on the Local Economy by Educational Systems Research Group  
August 1972  
66 pages
- \* University-Urban Interface Program Brochure  
April 1972  
14 pages
- \* Phase III Progress Report 4 (April - June, 1972)  
June 1972  
16 pages
- \* A University and Its Community Confront Problems and Goals by J. Steele Gow and Leslie Salmon-Cox  
June 1972  
75 pages
- \* Pittsburgh: Goals and Futures by Jiri Nehnevajsa  
September 1972  
94 pages
- \* Phase IV, Progress Report 1 (July - September 1972)  
September 1972  
17 pages

#### PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- \* Research on Communiversality Relations - Prepared for the Symposium on Academic Reform of the American Psychological Association - 1972 Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii by A. C. Van Dusen and R. C. Britson  
September 2-8, 1972
- \* Multiple Pressures on University Governance - Presented for Round Table Discussion - Annual Meeting American Sociological Association, New Orleans, La. by Martha Baum  
August 26-31, 1972

University Urban Interface Research - Presented for Luncheon Round Table Discussion - American Sociological Association Meeting 1972 Annual Meeting, New Orleans, La. by R. C. Brietson  
August 28-31, 1972

\* Community Constraints on Academic Planning: Myths and Realities - Prepared for Presentation before The 7th Annual Conference of The Society for College and University Planning, Atlanta, Georgia by P. C. Shaw and L. A. Tronzo  
August 7, 1972

\* The Urban University Student: A Political Profile - Presented at The Annual Meeting of The District of Columbia Sociological Society, Howard University, Washington, D. C. by P. C. Shaw  
May 13, 1972

\* University Urban Interface: Issues Methodology, Prospects - Presented at Eastern Psychological Association 43rd Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass., by R. C. Brietson and A. C. Van Dusen  
April 27-29, 1972

University Urban Interface: Motives, Means and Measures - Presented at American Educational Research Association 1972 Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill. by R. C. Brietson and A. C. Van Dusen  
April 3-7, 1972

Measuring the Impacts of College or University on the Local Economy - Prepared for Workshop for Educational Systems Research Group, Washington, D. C. by R. C. Brietson  
January 17-18, 1972